

VII Evaluation

JN 85094

April 7, 2006

Questions and Answers

Q – In order to respond completely to the RFP and prepare all the reports that are suggested by the RFP, it would be helpful if MDOT could define the current sources of data, and sources (such as probe data) that are expected to be in place at the start of this contract. The source, as well as the data elements that are available from each source, and a description of each data element, would be helpful in developing the reports and the algorithms from the anticipated proprietary data sources under proprietary formats in order to respond fully to the RFP.

A – This project and the sources of data are very dynamic in nature, and the information requested is either not currently available or is not in a standard format and is thus subject to change. Upon selection and during development of the scope of services, this information should be more readily available.

Q - Will the companies which are currently delivering data from these proprietary sources be available to respond this RFP? This will be especially important if the data descriptions and proprietary formats referenced above are not available to other bidders.

A – MDOT is not currently receiving any data from these sources. Once the vendor for this project is selected, the selected vendor, MDOT and the data sources will meet to discuss the data formats and other information that is relevant at that time. As this project is intended to determine the uses and value of the data associated with VII, and only use software as a means of processing that data into a different format, and because the data available and it's format is not anticipated to change over time, prior knowledge and understanding of the data formats is not relevant to the selection.

Q – If the companies which are currently delivering data from these proprietary sources can bid the RFP do they have existing applications that utilize these data streams that will be disclosed and provided?

A – The only firm/team required to provide applications is the selected team. As MDOT has not funded the development of any applications to this point, MDOT has no software rights to those applications.

Q – In the resume template in Exhibit "A" of the "Consultant / Vendor Selection Guidelines" there is a column entitled "Service I.D." In reviewing the guidelines on page 11, it says only that the "format shown in Exhibit A may be used." There is no reference to the "Service I.D." column and our team would like to know what the purpose of that column is and how we should address it.

A – For the purposes of this proposal, the Service I.D. column is not required and may be either omitted or left blank.

Q – On page 10 of the Scope of Services for Vehicle Infrastructure Integration (VII) Data Use Analysis and Processing it states the following under Notice to Vendor: “This contract shall use the standard MDOT Consultant Services contract, a copy of which is attached. This successful vendor should not expect the terms and conditions associated with this contract to be modified in any way.” However a copy of the contract is not attached. Can you tell me where I can find a copy of the contract, so I know we are using the correct form/format?

A – The contract language is located on the same web page as the RFP and the answers to the questions at www.michigan.gov/mdot.

Q – A statement attesting to the fact that the key personnel being proposed are available and have sufficient time available to provide the service as outlined in the RFP must be included in this section of the proposal. The statement must be signed by the vendor's "approved negotiator" and is required from the prime as well as all sub-vendors who are providing key personnel. Our question is: can the statement attesting to the key personnel availability be transmitted via email to the Project Manager (you)?

A – The signed statement must be included in the proposal submitted, and not delivered via email.

Q – Can you provide a link to the answers to previous questions, as I have been unable to find them on the MDOT site.

A – The RFP, all questions and answers, and the contract language can be found on the MDOT web site at www.michigan.gov/mdot. On the main page, select “Doing Business” from the selections on the left. Then select “vendor/consultant services” from the new list of selections on the left. In the center of the new page, select “Requests for Proposals” which will open up a page listing all of the RFP’s currently under consideration by MDOT, including the VII RFP.

Q – On Page 8, regarding the sub-bullet "Crash notification", will the data sources be adequate to interpret that an accident has occurred?

A – The list on Page 8 is given as a “wish-list” and there may be items on that list for which sufficient data or data detail is not available. Part of the purpose of this study is to determine if there are some data gaps that need to be included.

Q – Will more than one contract be awarded?

A – It is MDOT’s intent to only award one contract.

Q – Can you define 3000+ sources?

A – MDOT has been working with our various partners in the VII program, including OEM's, and they have indicated that there will be approximately 3000 vehicles outfitted with a VII-like data collection device and DSRC-surrogate transmitter which will collect data that can be used by MDOT for this project.

Q – What are the preferred "standards"? (section e, page 7)

A – The preferred standards refer to the standard data sets being developed and used by the VII community, and include the SAE car-to-car standard and the data formats being developed and used by CALTRANS and MTC for their efforts in Northern California.

Q – On pages 8 & 9, regarding the performance measure calculations, will there be specific devices which measure data such as air quality, or will this be triangulated or inferred based on supplementary data and sources?

A – It is the intent of this project to determine if in-vehicle sensors can be used to determine air quality. Validation and verification of this information may require the use of roadside devices.

Q – Will historical data be available for use in the Applications Development section? (Page 8)

A – Historical data, where it is available, will be provided as needed for use in the applications development and testing.

Q – Can the PE be contracted?

A – The Project Manager must be an employee of the prime (lead) firm, and must hold a Professional Engineer's license in Michigan at the time the RFP is submitted.

Q – Can you identify the location of the test beds?

A – The test bed locations are identified in the current MDOT VII Concept of Operations, which can be found at the MDOT VII web site, www.michigan.gov/mdotvii.

Q – The Selection Team Guidelines state that the first page of the proposal must be the Form 5100 D, the Request for Proposal Cover Sheet. Is this page intended to replace the proposal cover? If we do include a proposal cover, does it count towards the page limit?

A – Form 5100 D is not intended to replace the proposal cover. A cover page, given that the cover page includes only basic information (proposal title, responding name, address of respondent and recipient, etc.) will not be counted toward the page limit.

Q – Can proposals be hand delivered, or must they be delivered by a delivery service?

A – As long as proposals are received at the location listed in the RFP at the time identified, they can be delivered in any manner deemed appropriate by the respondent.